



Docket No.: 1359.1035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hiroki KITAGAWA et al.

Serial No. 09/768,361

Group Art Unit: 2625

Confirmation No. 3649

Filed: January 25, 2001

Examiner: John B. Strege

For: PICTURE MATCHING PROCESSING SYSTEM

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APR 2 2 2004

Sir:

Technology Center 2600

This is in response to the Office Action mailed March 24, 2004, and having a period for response set to expire on April 24, 2004.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Request for Correction of Species, to Include Embodiment 3 and All the Figures Identified as Corresponding to Embodiments I and II

The Action requires an election as between the following patentably distinct species:

- I. Species 1 directed to Embodiment I corresponding to Fig. 6 of the Applicant's disclosure.
- II. Species 2 directed to Embodiment II corresponding to Fig. 11 of the Applicant's disclosure.

Applicants request that Species 1 be corrected to correspond to Figs. 1-7, inclusive.

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Further, applicants request that Species 2 be corrected to correspond to Figs. 3 and 8-11. In this regard, Fig. 3 is utilized in Embodiment II as well as Embodiment I.

Further, applicants request that the Action be corrected to acknowledge: III - Species 3 corresponding to Fig. 12.

Fig. 12 is described to constitute Embodiment 3, in the paragraph spanning pages 13-14 of the application, and constitutes a recording medium storing a program for realizing image matching processing systems in accordance with both Embodiments I and II.

## ELECTION

Applicants elect Embodiment II, corresponding to Figs. 3 and 8-11.

## LIST OF CLAIMS CORRESPONDING TO EMBODIMENT II

Claims 1-4, 11-15, 16 and 17-21 correspond to Embodiment II.

Furthermore, claims 1-4, 16 and 17 are generic claims, each encompassing both of Embodiments I and II.

Applicants respectfully reserve the right to reinstate any claims withdrawn as a result of the foregoing election in the event that a generic claim is allowed herein, as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

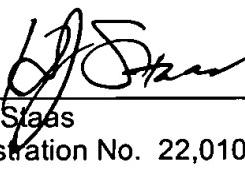
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: April 21, 2004

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